

March 6th, 2015

Julie Monroe
44 Mather Ave
Groton, CT 06340

Attn: Sen. Moore, Rep. Abercrombie, Members of the Human Services Committee,

My Name is Julie Monroe. I am a Toddler Teacher at Riverfront Children's Center in Groton, CT. I am testifying today about the wages for Early Childhood Teachers. I have worked at Riverfront for almost ten years. My wage has only increased approximately \$1 more an hour than I was when I started. I love my job as much today as I did back then. However to keep my job here at Riverfront, I receive assistance in my housing which includes my heat/electric, childcare through Care 4 Kids, Husky insurance and food stamps. It is sad that I must count on the State to help me in areas that my income is meant to be able to cover. My annual income for me and my son is \$20,000 a year. I would like to be able to cover my own expenses without having to count on anyone else particularly the State.

I am requesting that you look at helping those of us that love educating our youngest citizens. Any type of income increases would not only help me in my situation but those I work with as well who love what they do and where they work.

Sincerely,

Julie Monroe

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Julie Monroe', written in dark ink.